October 29 to December 15, 2001, the team worked rotating shifts throughout the precinct from 8 in the morning until midnight.

The Gang Interdiction Team made 154 arrests and had 290 significant contacts in that short time. The level of gang activity decreased significantly in the almost two months the team was in operation.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the 1990's police departments across New York State once again learned how effective strong police deployments can be in reducing crime. In dealing with gangs, this is even more important, for if we can keep gang activity down, we may be able to keep young people out of the sort of major trouble that gang-life ultimately brings.

I would like to note in particular that I will be working closely with Tom Spota, Suffolk County's new District Attorney and the Suffolk County Police Department in efforts to continue this program to keep the 2nd Congressional District safe for our families.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING BRIAN FEELEY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Brian Feely has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America troop 401; and

Whereas, Brian Feeley is commended for his quick thinking and survival skills for saving his brother's life in a bicycle accident; and,

Whereas, Brian Feeley has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Brian Feeley must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Brian Feeley for his Eagle scout Award.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1438, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZA-TION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, as our military forces continue to confront the terrorism, we must remember the burden that is being carried by our personnel and their families. They have been called on to make even greater sacrifices to protect the freedoms of our nation. For the past several years, military personnel accounts have been stretched at the expense of those who need it most.

With the largest pay raise since 1982, S. 1438 allows every service member to receive a 5 to 10 percent raise. This bill acts to cut out-of-pocket housing costs for military personnel, with a goal to completely eliminate the expense by 2005.

There are many pressures in today's force that influence the decision of a military family of whether or not to remain in the service. This body has witnessed an ever-increasing challenge of recruiting and retaining. We have found that providing a valuable, quality health care benefit is vital to maintaining the welfare of our families.

This bill works to protect the health care choices of one important group: military spouses. I have worked hard to put women back in charge of their pregnancy-related

healthcare. Provisions of this bill will eliminate burdensome red tape experienced when attempting to retain a physician of their choice. By fully funding the defense health program, we are striving to build a military healthcare system that attracts patients based on quality, not on rules & regulations.

Now, more than ever before we realize that our presence represents a stabilizing force to countries around the globe. With pace of deployments likely to be increased, the Armed Services Committee has appropriately concentrated on enhancing quality of life issues in support of our deserving personnel.

I am pleased that this bill directly addresses the quality-of-life problems of today's service members.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JASON PAUL HUBER

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Jason Huber has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, Jason Huber has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides: and

Whereas, Jason Huber has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Jason Huber must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Jason Paul Huber for his Eagle Scout Award.